APRIL 6, 1769. NUMBER 933.

THE VIRGINIA GAZETTE.

With the latest ADVICES, FOREIGN and DOMESTICK.

IN CIVITATE LIBERA LINGUAM MENTEMQUE LIBERAS ESSE DEBERE. —— *Suet.* in *Tib.* S. 28.

Printed by *ALEX. PURDIE*, and *JOHN DIXON*, at the POST OFFICE.

PARMA, *December* 17.

A PERSON found means, in the night between the 15th and 16th inſtant, to get into the church of St. Mary Magdelain, in order to ſteal the church plate; but the poſt going by about four in the morning, perceiving more light than uſual in the church, alarmed the watch, and upon opening the church the rogue was diſcovered behind the organ, and finding he had no chance to make his eſcape he ſtabbed himſelf with a knife, and fell dead at the feet of the guard that was going to ſeize him. He proved to be a prieſt, about thirty years of age; and, by way of publick juſtice, his body was hanged up this day. Several churches have lately been robbed, it is ſuppoſed by the ſame perſon.

PETERSBURG, *Dec.* 23. Baron Tott, a French Gentleman, who has been here ſome years, has received orders from the government to quit this empire in 24 hours, but on what account is not known.

VENICE, *Jan.* 4. In all appearances the preſent agreement between the Turks and the Montenegrins will not laſt long. Scarce were the former retired into winter quarters when Stephano appeared again at the head of a great number of his party. He had concealed himſelf in the higheſt mountains, from whence he is now come down into the villages, which the Turks had driven him from, and ſhows himſelf there without any ſort of uneaſineſs. The Porte, in order to rid themſelves of every other apprehenſion during their quarrel with Ruſſia, thought it neceſſary to diſarm all the Greeks under their dominion. The inhabitants of the Morea refuſed to obey the order, on which occaſion ſome very violent diſputes aroſe, particularly at Patras, in the neighbourhood of Maina, and in Arcadia, where ſeveral lives have already been loſt. The Greeks have likewiſe choſen themſelves a leader, and will by no means ſubmit to be diſarmed. To theſe melancholy circumſtances are joined the alarms occaſioned by ſome ſhocks of an earthquake, which have done prodigious damage, and buried numbers of the inhabitants under the ruins of their own houſes.

LISBON, *Dec.* 23. The Biſhop of Coimbra, having behaved contrary to the King's orders, has been brought hither, and it is thought he will find it difficult to juſtify himſelf. The religious of the convent of St. Croix, eſtabliſhed at Coimbra, have likewiſe guards placed over them.

PARIS, *Dec.* 30. The Chamber of Accounts have iſſued an arret the 23d of November, by which a work entitled "An Hiſtorical and Critical Medley," containing divers pieces relative to the hiſtory of France, is ſuppreſſed, as repugnant to the honour and reſpect due to magiſtracy, and the juriſdiction of the Chamber in particular. The author attributes to the ſovereign the rights of the moſt ſevere deſpotiſm; and looking upon impoſts as a diſtinctive mark of the prerogative of ſupreme majeſty, he ſets no bounds to that fatal reſource, not even the abſolute neceſſity of regiſtering them. He propoſes to exclude from all publick employments thoſe who live in the ſtate of celibacy, annulling the eccleſiaſtical privileges, which he pretends are the work of troubleſome times, and of the ignorance that prevailed in former ages. He ſays that Kings have a right, in urgent caſes, to ſeize on their poſſeſſions, in order to apply them to pay off the debts of the ſtate.

LEGHORN, *Dec.* 16. They write from Corſica that two Engliſh Noblemen who came there, after having ſpoken with General Paoli, returned to Italy in a ſhip under French colours. The Corſicans have taken into their pay 5000 regular troops, in order to enable them to oppoſe the 40 battalions of French troops that are to go to Corſica in the ſpring. Notwithſtanding theſe reenforcements, the Corſicans are more than ever determined to ſpend the laſt drop of blood in defence of their liberty.

LONDON, *January* 3.

Tranſlation of a letter from General PAOLI.

SIR,

YOU are, without doubt, acquainted with my true ſentiments on the ſituation of our affairs. My character has not been that of a hero of romance, a Quixote, or an Amadis. There is nothing more real than the object I purſue; but if inſtead of a real object I purſue a chimera, I am deceived indeed, yet my errour ſhall never cauſe me to deſert the common cauſe. What are, for the moſt part, the objects of our purſuits, but dazzling chimeras, which have no other exiſtence than that which our lively and deceived imagination lends them? Upon this principle, I will purſue my firſt plan; and if that liberty which I ſeek is not to be found any where, I ſtill ſhall account him my enemy who will undertake to remove the deluſion from my ſight! Let me enjoy this dream, which to me appears ſo much like truth.

The offers that have been made me are both injurious to me and repugnant to that ſpirit of liberty which circulates with my blood in my veins, and which ſhall circulate with it to the laſt drop. You little know the courage of the Corſicans if you can believe they will ever ſubmit to a foreign yoke. All the efforts of Genoa have proved ineffectual againſt their valour and love of liberty; and ſhall we then ſubmit to another power that comes to offer us its chains? The rocks that ſurround me ſhall melt away ere I will betray a cauſe which I hold in common with the loweſt Corſican. No; I never will become the baſe deſtroyer of my country, after having been the generous defender of it. If any man was capable of enſlaving me it would be the Comte de Marbeuf, and the King his maſter could not have choſen a more enchanting man; but you know, Sir, the price of liberty, like health, is only known when loſt: They are the moſt precious enjoyments of life. Let the mean ſlaves of their maſters wills fawn at their feet, and renounce the natural rights of humanity: As for me, I have learnt to be free; I know how to live ſo, and to die free I would ſacrifice ten lives, if I had them. I have but one, but that ſhall not ſurvive my liberty. Be aſſured, Sir, I ſhall ever be immoveable. Gold loſes it ſplendour when offered as the price of liberty. Honours are only able to dazzle fools, if they are not to be obtained but by renouncing the privileges of human nature. What does it ſignify to me that I am able to command a multitude of ſlaves, who ſhall come and humiliate themſelves at my feet, if in a quarter of an hour afterwards I am forced, in my turn, to humble myſelf at the feet of another, one degree higher than myſelf? If I fall the victim of liberty I ſhall fall nobly, and teach others to ſacrifice themſelves to the common cauſe. Our love of liberty will ſubſiſt, even among the ruins of our country; it will be enlivened by fire, be born again of the aſhes, and will grow though in irons. Of one ſlaughtered hero will be produced a thouſand; and, as Tertullian ſaid of the primitive martyrs of the church, their blood will be fruitful, and heroes will never be wanting in Corſica."

Extract of a letter from Mr. Todd, *at* Bombay, *to his brother in* London.

"I have been very unfortunate ever ſince I have been in India, and had a continual ſucceſſion of croſſes and diſappointments. Oh! Jack, I have to relate one misfortune ſo melancholy that was even all brotherly love extinct in your boſom it would move your generoſity and humanity, and draw down a profuſion of tears.

"On the fatal 13th of January, at about three quarters paſt ten o'clock in the morning, a powder magazine, within fifteen yards of my houſe, was blown up, by the premeditated malice of Solomon Hart, a quartermaſter ſergeant of artillery, who being puniſhed the ſame morning for miſbehaviour took this deſperate and diabolical ſtep to deſtroy himſelf, and be revenged on the publick. Alas! I who never knew, or could poſſibly have injured him, am the greater ſufferer.

"There were about thirty eight barrels of powder contained in the magazine, which in an inſtant levelled my houſe with the ground.

"Oh! what did I then feel! the terrours of the laſt day cannot exceed it. I had juſt ſet my foot over the threſhold of my writing office door when I received a wound on my head, I apprehended with a muſket ball, as there were ſome thouſand cartridges in the magazine. The air became ſo dark that I could not ſee my hand, and the whole complicated ruin fell around me; I tumbled againſt the door, but recollecting myſelf roſe again to go in ſearch of my deareſt wife. Good Heavens! what was my agony until the air cleared up a little, not being able to advance a ſtep! When light appeared I explored my way over the ruins, in hopes of meeting what was dearer to me than my life; and not knowing but my wound was mortal, I haſtened to give what aſſiſtance I could, and ſpend the ſmall remains to ſave my deareſt wife.

"Dreadful was the meeting indeed! I was only clothed in a chintz night gown and drawers, barefoot; the former held on my wound, and covered from head to foot with blood and duſt. In this condition, I fell over one man killed; and riſing in a frenzy of diſtraction ran to ſome Gentlemen advancing, imploring their aſſiſtance to ſearch the ruins. At this inſtant I ſaw my Jenny, when, ſupporting my wound, I loſt all thought of my own loſs, and bleſſing God for her ſafety claſped in my arms, who was, alas! too ſoon to be raviſhed thence for ever. Good God! what horrour took poſſeſſion of me, when, with her clothes almoſt blown off, ſhe declared herſelf mortally wounded. I took every immediate care for her aſſiſtance, and ſuffered what no man can be a judge of, unleſs in ſuch a ſituation, and he loved like me. Some large ſplinters of a table had pierced her ſide, perforated the thorax, and broke one of her ribs. In this terrible ſituation Capt. Stevens and his Lady, our worthy and approved friends, received us into their houſe, where every poſſible care was taken to ſave my poor girl's life. The ſplinters were all extracted, and we had great hopes of her recovery; but having caught a cold on the 25th of March, it brought on a flux, which on the 1ſt of April deprived me of what was moſt dear to me in this life, and rendered me ſuperlatively miſerable.

"Oh! Jack, brother, friend, think what diſtreſs my mind muſt be in. Expreſſion is too poor to convey an idea of it. My own wound is ſlight, the ſcull not being injured; but had I been a little taller, or more advanced, I muſt have been killed. My look was terrible bruiſed, and his leg miſerable ſhattered. A ſlave girl was two hours in the ruins, and dug out with a thigh broke; and all my ſervants much hurt. They preſent a moſt miraculous inſtance of the providence of God, in permitting one of my family to eſcape with life. Had it pleaſed him to ſpare my moſt valuable part I would not have repined, but for her ſake redoubled my induſtry to retrieve it. There were, I believe, about thirty people killed, and ſixty wounded. My loſs amounts to about 4001."

A ſhip arrived at Liverpool, from the coaſt of Guinea, gives an account of the loſs of two large French ſhips, which had been ſlaving there, whereby all the crew (except three men) were totally loſt, with all the cargo and ſlaves on board. The number of perſons who periſhed by this accident, which was a ſtorm the latter end of October laſt, are computed at about 300.

JAN. 7. Letters from Florence, dated Dec. 10th, ſay: "The greateſt part of the unfortunate inhabitants of St. Sophia have reſolved not to rebuild their houſes, for fear of ſome new ſhocks of earthquakes, thereby imitating the conduct obſerved 107 years ago in the ſame circumſtances. They lodge under bad barracks, built in the fields; but it is feared that the weather will become too ſevere for this experiment.

Extract of a letter from Edgware, JAN. 2.

"On Thurſday laſt William Hallet, Eſq; a Gentleman remarkable for benevolence and humanity, diſtributed a large quantity of bread, meat, and coals, among the poor inhabitants of this and the neighbouring pariſhes, which he propoſes to continue weekly through the winter. Pity it is that ſome landlords, inſtead of taking all opportunities to make the diſtreſſes of the indigent more ſevere, will not follow an example ſo agreeable to humanity as this."

We hear that Mr. Smeaton, the eminent engineer, has, in his report concerning the river and outfall of the ancient port of Wiſbich, propoſed to bring the ſhips again up to that town, which will be of the greateſt advantage to the country in general.

A few days ſince, his Excellency Count de Seilern, the Imperial Ambaſſadour, by order of the Emperour and the Empreſs Queen, preſented Sir John Pringle, Baronet, phyſician to her Majeſty, with three gold and eighteen ſilver medals, "as a mark of their "eſteem, and as a teſtimony of the ſenſe they retain of their obli"gation to him for encouraging the introduction of inoculation "for the ſmallpox, according to the late improvements, into their "dominions; and for recommending to their Imperial Majeſties "Dr. Ingenhouſz, who had happily ſucceeded in carrying this "practice into execution."

Letters from Leghorn ſay that General Paoli had lately received a conſiderable ſum of money, which it was reported his agents had ſucceſsfully negotiated in a certain ſtate, to enable the Corſicans to carry on the war vigorouſly againſt France.

JAN. 10. A letter from Wolverhampton ſays: "I herewith ſend you a ſhort account of the canal now making from the Trent to the Severn, viz. there are 21 locks nearly finiſhed, whoſe fall is about 200 feet, 36 bridges of different ſorts finiſhed, 25 miles now cut, ſeven aqueducts finiſhed, one of which is a large one to carry the canal over Stour, two ſubterraneous paſſages finiſhed, one 23 yards, and the other 68 in length; the Birmingham and Stourbridge canal will join this. There are above 500 men employed, above 11 miles are already navigable, and it will certainly be completed to join the navigation from the Trent to the Merſey in two years.

"I cannot be ſo exact in my account of the Trent navigation, but ſhall give you what I believe to be true: There are 22 miles cut, 14 locks finiſhed, 16 road bridges finiſhed, and ſix boats navigating; about 450 yards of the ſubterraneous paſſage under Hair Caſtle hill finiſhed. It goes on well, and will be finiſhed, it is thought, in leſs than five years, 500 men being employed. There is no machine made uſe of to raiſe and lower veſſels otherwiſe than by locks."

Extract of a letter from Iſle Rouge, *Dec.* 14.

"The 8th of this month a ſmall Corſican privateer, commanded by Capt. Lazzeco, an inhabitant of this iſle, ſailed from this port upon a cruiſe againſt the little French veſſels that bring over proviſions and ammunition for their troops in Corſica. Scarce was he got out of port when he diſcovered a French tartane from Provence, which he took after a good deal of reſiſtance, and brought into the gulf of Sagone, where her cargo was unloaded, conſiſting of 334 barrels of gunpowder, and 354 fuſils. He then put to ſea again, and ſoon after took another tartane of the ſame nation, coming from Ajaccio, and for Provence, where ſhe was carrying, among other effects, 64,000 livres in ſpecie, beſides a number of gold and ſilver watches, and many other effects of ſmaller value. On board this tartane alſo were ſix French officers and a ſergeant, who were going upon their furlow to France, and who, on being attacked, ſhewed an inclination of defending themſelves; but one of the officers being immediately killed by a ſhot, and the ſergeant wounded, the others ſurrend red, and were likewiſe carried, with the tartane, into the gulf of Sagone."

A court of Aldermen met this day at Guildhall, to take into further conſideration the queſtion relative to the late election of an Alderman for the ward of Farringdon Without.

As the being convicted of blaſphemy has been thought by ſome not to be a ſufficient diſqualification from [illegible] civil office, ſuch as that of Alderman, &c. the following extract from an act in Parliament againſt that enormous crime may perhaps occaſion them to alter their opinion.

9th and 10th William III. ſect. 1.

"Whereas many perſons have of late years openly avowed many blaſphemous and impious opinions, contrary to the doctrine and principles of the Chriſtian religion, greatly tending to the diſhonour of Almighty God, and may prove deſtructive to the peace and welfare of this kingdom: Wherefore, for the more effectual ſuppreſſion of the ſaid deteſtable crime, be it enacted that ſuch perſon or perſons, for the firſt offence, ſhall be adjudged incapable and diſabled, in law, to all intents and purpoſes whatſoever, to have or enjoy any office or offices, employment or employments, eccleſiaſtick, civil, or military, or any part in them, &c. &c."

We have been favoured with the following particulars concern the ball at Court on the Queen's birth day:

Their Majeſties came into the ball room about nine o'clock, and after a little time ſpent in compliments to the Dukes of Glouceſter and Cumberland, the Princes of Mecklenburg, and the Nobility, who were very numerous and brilliant, the ball was opened by the Duke of Glouceſter and the Dutcheſs of Marlborough; his Royal Highneſs danced another minuet with the Dutcheſs of Portland. The Duke of Cumberland then danced two minuets, one with Lady Mary Paulet, and one with Lady Betty Hamilton. Prince Erneſt of Mecklenburg danced two minuets, one with the Counteſs of Abington, and one with Lady Bell Grey. Prince George of Mecklenburg danced two minuets, one with Lady Frances Manners, and one with Lady Molineux. The minuets continued until near twelve o'clock, when country dances began, and laſted about half an hour, when their Majeſties left the ball room. The company then diſperſed by degrees, and the room was clear by two o'clock.

SHEERNESS, JAN. 12. A veſſel called the Thomas and Mary, which ran aground, and ſunk in the river channel at the Nore, in eight fathom, at low water, about three months ago, is at length weighed, and brought into ſhoaler water; from whence, by degrees, ſhe is to be brought as near high water mark as the tide will permit, for taking out her cargo, which conſiſts of copper. This job is eſteemed a very meritorious one, and it is to be hoped that by the like proceſs many valuable ſhips and merchandiſe which are ſunk in our harbours and on our coaſts will be recovered. The veſſel is about 60 or 70 tuns burthen, and is ſaid to have been enſured for at leaſt 5000 l.

CORK, JAN. 5. The ſilence obſerved by France in not publiſhing the leaſt account of the embarkations of troops from her ports to the Weſt Indies, Africa, &c. of late, is very remarkable; and particularly as ſeveral tranſports were loſt in the bay of Biſcay, on board of which it is ſaid there were 1200 men, being part of a much greater number bound for Martinico and Guadaloupe.

NEWCASTLE, JAN. 7. In the courſe of laſt year 4173 ſhips have been cleared from this port (which is 453 more than in the preceding year) of which 3728 were coaſtwiſe, and 445 to foreign places.

JAN. 14 This week a Gentlewoman in town ſent a ſpecial meſſenger to a bachelor houſekeeper here, demanding him to procure a licenſe to marry her immediately, or the inſtant payment of 50l. which he had borrowed of her late huſband on his own bond, payable at May day next. As the above Gentleman had never made his addreſſes to the widow, he was much ſurpriſed, and frankly told the meſſenger he had no intention of marrying her, but would pay her the money when due. When the meſſenger returned with this anſwer the impatient widow ſent again, in-

killing as above, which being refused she sent two bailiffs the next day to his house. Her husband has not been dead above four months.

EDINBURGH, JAN. 7. Last week, at a meeting of the justices of the shire of Renfrew, the journeymen weavers of the town of Paisley, to the number of some thousands, went in a body, complaining that the price of meal rising was partly owing to the great quantity of grain consumed by the small stills, whereof there were above 180 in that place. On their being told by the justices that the most effectual way to discourage that pernicious practice would be for them to enter into a resolution not to buy or drink any whisky, this proposal they all agreed to, and entered into a bond to give over using of aquavitæ. If all the manufacturers of this place and country round would follow their laudable example, it would greatly contribute to keep down the markets.

The Elizabeth, Kirkwood, from Clyde to Bourdeaux, loaded with 240 hogsheads of tobacco, was lost near that port. The people are saved, and about 100 hogsheads of tobacco.

BOSTON, *Feb.* 27.

At a meeting of the Selectmen, February 16th, 1769, present Joshua Henshaw, Joseph Jackson, John Ruddock, John Hancock, John Rowe, Samuel Pemberton, *Esquires, and Mr.* Henderson Inches, *voted unanimously, that the following address be presented to his Excellency* FRANCIS BERNARD, *Esq*;

May it please your Excellency,

AT a time when artful and mischievous men have so far prevailed as to foment and spread divisions in the British empire; when mutual confidence, which had so long subsisted, with mutual advantage, between the subjects in Britain and America, is in a great measure broken; when means are at length found even to excite the resentment of the mother state against her colonies, and they are publickly charged with being in a state of disobedience to law, and ready to resist the constitutional authority of the nation; the Selectmen of this metropolis cannot be the unconcerned or silent spectators of the calamities which, in consequence thereof, have already fallen upon its inhabitants.

To behold this town surrounded with ships of war and military troops, even in a time of peace, quartered in its very bowels, exercising a discipline with all the severity which is used in a garrison, and in a state of actual war, is truly alarming to a free people; and, what still heightens the misfortune, is that our Gracious Sovereign, and his Ministers, have formed such an idea of the present state of the town as to induce a necessity of this naval and military force, for the aid of the civil magistrate in the preservation of its peace and good order.

Your Excellency can witness for the town that no such aid is necessary: Loyalty to the Sovereign, and an inflexible zeal for the support of his Majesty's authority and the happy constitution, is its just character; and we may appeal to the impartial world that peace and order were better maintained in the town, before it was even rumoured that his Majesty's troops were to be quartered among us, than they have been since. Such a measure then, we are persuaded, would never have been ordered by the wisdom of the British Administration, had not the necessity of it been drawn from the representations of some of his Majesty's servants in this province.

Your Excellency will allow us to express our opinion that the publick transactions of the town, and the behaviour of some of its individual inhabitants, have been greatly misapprehended by his Majesty's Ministers.

We therefore, in duty to the town we have the honour to serve, respectfully wait on your Excellency, and pray that you would be pleased to communicate to us such representations *of facts only* as you have judged proper to make since the commencement of the last year; and as there is a prevailing report that depositions are and have been taken *ex parte*, to the prejudice of the town and particular persons, may we not assure ourselves that your Excellency will, in justice, cause to be laid before us such other representations as may have come to your knowledge; that the town, knowing clearly and precisely what has been alleged against it, may have an opportunity of vindicating itself.

WILLIAM COOPER, Town Clerk.

The foregoing address was accordingly presented to his Excellency, by the Selectmen of the town, last Friday morning; and on Saturday afternoon his Excellency was pleased to return the following answer:

GENTLEMEN,

THE propriety of your addressing me upon publick business I shall not now dispute, but in my answer I shall confine myself to such parts of your address as relate to you as the Selectmen, or to the town as a body.

I have no reason to think that the publick transactions of this town have been misapprehended by his Majesty or his Ministers, or that their opinions thereon are founded upon any other accounts than those published by the town itself.

If therefore you can vindicate yourselves from such charges as may arise from your own publications, you will, in my opinion, have nothing further to apprehend.

Province House, Feb. 18, 1769. FRA. BERNARD.

At a meeting of the Selectmen, February 23d, 1769, present Joshua Henshaw, Joseph Jackson, John Ruddock, John Hancock, Samuel Pemberton, *Esquires, and Mr.* Henderson Inches, *voted unanimously, that the following address be presented to his Excellency* FRANCIS BERNARD, *Esq*;

May it please your Excellency,

THE Selectmen of the town of Boston beg leave, once more, to wait on your Excellency; hoping you will excuse this further trouble, as it is upon a matter of the greatest importance to the town.

In your answer to our late humble request your Excellency was pleased to say that "you have no reason to think that the publick transactions of this town have been misapprehended by his Majesty or his Ministers, or that their opinions thereon are founded upon any other accounts than those published by the town itself;" and "that if we can vindicate ourselves from such charges as may arise from our own publications, we shall, in your opinion, have nothing further to apprehend."

As the town has published nothing but its own transactions, in town meeting legally assembled, it gives us the greatest pleasure to find your Excellency, in your reply to us, thus vindicating it from any just cause of apprehension, from the general character of its inhabitants, considered as individuals. If therefore the town has suffered on account of the disorders which happened on the 18th of March, or the 10th of June last, by persons unknown (the only disorders that have taken place in this town within the year past) we take your Excellency's declaration to us to be a full testimony that, in your opinion, it must be in consequence of some partial or false representations of those disorders to his Majesty's Ministers; and we rejoice to find your Excellency's sentiments, as expressed in your reply, so far harmonizing with those of his Majesty's Council, not long ago published. We have in this case the most authentick evidence that can possibly be had, the joint testimony of the Governour and Council of the province, that the town has not been *in a state of opposition to order and government*, and such as *required a military force to support civil authority*.

With regard to the publick transactions of the town, when legally assembled, from which *alone*, in your Excellency's declared opinion, the town could have any thing to apprehend, we beg leave to say that after the most careful retrospect, and the best inquiry we could make into the nature and import of those transactions, we are utterly at a loss in what view they can appear to have militated with any law, or the British constitution of government; and we entreat your Excellency would condescend to point out to us in what particular respect they either have been or may be viewed in such a light, that either the town may be made sensible of the illegality of its proceedings, or that, upon the most critical examination, its innocence may appear in a *still clearer* light.

Your Excellency's high station in the province, and the regard you have *professed* for the interest of the town, we humbly apprehend must give *propriety* to this, as well as our former address.

WILLIAM COOPER, Town Clerk.

The foregoing address was accordingly presented to his Excellency by the Selectmen last Friday, when his Excellency was pleased to return the following answer:

GENTLEMEN,

AS in my answer to your former address I confined myself to you as Selectmen, and the town as a body, I did not mean to refer to the disorders on the 18th of March or of the 10th of June, but to the transactions in the town meetings, and the proceedings of the Selectmen in consequence thereof.

February 24. FRA. BERNARD.

March 6. We can with truth assert that there have been born at the north part of this town six pair of twins, five of which are male children, all within a stone's throw of each other, and are now alive and well. If every stone's throw in America would produce the like effects, in a very little time we should have no need of a standing army to protect our rights.

We are told that the affairs of these colonies were to be strictly canvassed in Parliament, and that every thing would be done for them which could reasonably be expected.

A letter from London says: "American affairs engage the attention of the publick here, and truly they are in a critical situation. The late resolution of several of the colonies not to import any British manufactures, &c. make great impressions on the minds of the people here, and perplex the Ministry, so that they are at a loss how to act; for as the stamp act was calculated to execute itself, so the late one of taxation must drop, by the colonies not purchasing the articles taxed. A better way could not have been fallen upon, in the present juncture, to serve the liberties of America. I hope the different provinces will lay aside their little party affairs, firmly unite, and stand to their resolutions."

Letters from London mention that the Halifax packet, which was sent home last summer with despatches from Commodore Hood, is lying at Portsmouth fitted for sea, and ready to sail at an hour's warning; and is only detained until the Parliament has determined the American affairs, when she will sail with orders for General Gage and the American Governours.

The same letters inform us that it is more than probable that the Earl of Chatham, and George Grenville, Esq; will be appointed Secretaries of State before the end of the holidays, as all the different branches of the Grenville family are now firmly united. That if this arrangement should take place, it is not doubted but a war will soon ensue; which will give great satisfaction to a Noble Earl, as he will then most certainly *solely* guide the reins of government.

On the 19th of this instant a child was baptized, at the west church in this town, by the name of JOHN WILKES.

Extract of a letter from a Gentleman at Grenada.

"This island, once the dread of my countrymen, on account of its fame for unhealthiness, is in fact as healthy a climate as any within the tropicks on this side the globe; it is likewise valuable on account of its produce, which increases amazingly every year. This year upwards of 18,000 hogsheads of sugars, coffee, and cocoa, have been shipped for Europe, exclusive of what has been shipped for North America, besides rum, which in taste and flavour is equal to Jamaica rum. There are near 6000 hogsheads more than were shipped the last year. There is now a fine prospect of a great crop. This island, in a very few years, will be the best belonging to the English to windward of Jamaica; for there is no danger of wanting water, having a great number of fine rivers, and the middle being very high and mountainous it attracts the clouds, which afford plenty of rain, and almost all the mules go by water."

NEW YORK, *March* 13.

THE 26th ult. at about half ebb, the schooner Mary, Captain Crisp, from New London, bound to this port, having 19 hogsheads of sugar and some other goods on board, in coming through Hell Gate, the wind suddenly dying away, was driven by the current on the Gridiron rock, where she lay until the flood. As soon as she could float she went off, and sunk directly. The Captain and men were obliged to quit her before she sunk, and could save nothing. Part of her stern has since been found on the Long Island shore, but nothing else of either vessel or cargo.

Captain Creighton, arrived here Thursday evening in 6 weeks from Curacoa, met with severe weather on the coast. He acquaints us that on his arrival at Curacoa, in December last, he found the inhabitants greatly alarmed on a report that their Negroes had formed a conspiracy against them; whereupon guards were doubled, and necessary precautions taken to suppress the attempt, but that when he left it the island seemed to be settling into quiet again. A Dutch frigat of 32 guns arrived at Curacoa from Holland, and the coast of Guinea, the 25th of January. The first instant Captain Creighton spoke Captain Atkinson from Virginia for Liverpool, out three days; and the 4th spoke a brig from Surinam for Boston, but the wind blowing fresh he could not learn the master's name.

The Case of G. BRITAIN *and* AMERICA, *addressed to the* King, *and both* Houses *of* Parliament.

IT having been said that it is the resolution of the present Ministry to impose taxes on the colonies, by the authority of the British Parliament, and to compel the colonies to submission, the object of this very sensible writer is to examine the justice and policy of those measures, and to suggest others, which appear to him less exceptionable in each of those particulars; and this he has done with great candour, judgment, and precision. Having shewn that the comparison between the Americans and those Britons who have no suffrages is false, and demonstrated in what the freedom of the Americans does *not* consist, he then shews what *are* those privileges which for our sakes we must allow them. Upon this head our author observes that it is not sufficient that an American landholder should be on a par with a Briton who has no landed property, or with a British Papist, but that an American *freeholder* should have the same power over his *own* property as a *British* freeholder has over *his own*. "If any man (says he) shall object to me that I have placed the colonies in a situation *too* equal to their mother country, I answer him that I have done so only with respect to their own *vested and acquired* property; and that Americans have as much right to the property of America, when once *acquired and vested*, as Britons have to the property of Great Britain."

This writer further observes that if America be entitled to English privileges, the English constitution, she is entitled to that constitution as it stood at the *time* when the colonies were planted. He next considers the qualification of freeholders touching their right to vote for members of Parliament, agreeable to the constitution of England at that period, and some other matters, after which he proceeds as follows:

"The English speak of the blood and treasure they have expended; the Americans, that they have encountered an inhospitable climate for the purposes of Great Britain, and have dedicated their lives and fortunes to her service. There is no weight in any of these declamations: Whatever was done by either of them was done for their own advantage. If Britain has protected the property of America, it does not constitute her the owner of that property: She has, for her own sake, protected in their turns almost every country in Europe; but that does not make her the proprietor of those countries, or give her a power of taxation over them. If America, in pursuing her own interest, has advantaged Britain, we owe her no obligation. Whilst we each possess those benefits for which we expended our treasure, and for which they encountered that climate, we owe nothing to each other but reciprocal affection. To extend their commerce our ancestors encouraged the emigration of British subjects; their industry abroad was thought more advantageous than their residence in Britain. As an inducement to forego those privileges which they possessed, or might acquire at home, it was agreed that they should carry English privileges along with them; and as an inducement to become the carriers, and the labourers of England, they were endowed with a desert territory, useful only by the industry they should bestow upon it, and this was given to them as their *wages*. Let not a compact, founded in our interest, purchased by their labour, and confirmed by time, suffer any violation. Let us be content with our commercial advantages, and those superiorities which they willingly submit to. Let us make them labour for us, but let us not take from them their wages also.

"Having considered the justice of the present measures, let us now examine their policy, and in this examination let our sentiments of equity forget to operate; let us forget that they have rights, or that we have humanity; let us suppose ourselves entering into an agreement with a free and a considerable people, and settling the terms of an everlasting union: or if any one should be of opinion that neither of these circumstances is applicable to the colonies, let us suppose them in their numbers inconsiderable, unaccustomed to liberty, overawed by fear, or humiliated by conquest, and ready to receive any constitution we please to impose upon them. In such a situation, what reflections should our own interest suggest to us? Though this people be weak at present, their strength and their numbers may increase: Though we ourselves are strong, our strength may decline; though their spirit is depressed, it may revive. They are placed at a great distance from us; we have formidable enemies: Their affections therefore are of the utmost importance, and there is no method so certain of securing their affections as the making it their interest to be our friends. We ourselves have a free constitution: If we grant liberty to them they will be steady to us, because they cannot change for the better; if we assume unlimited and absolute authority they will wish to change, because they cannot change for the worse. The tyranny of a despotick commonwealth is infinitely worse than that of a despotick Prince. But it is in vain to endeavour to deceive them: Though they never have tasted liberty they will soon become acquainted with its nature; they will perceive the misery of their situation by the happiness of ours. While their garrisons are filled with our soldiers, their harbours with our fleets, and their employments with officers of our appointment, and while they derive from us a degree of freedom, we shall be secure, both by our own power and by their affections. They are weak, by their circumstances; let us not make them strong, by their despair. The gradual increase of numbers and of opulence may add to their force, but that force will sleep unless it be awakened by injury; and while we retain an absolute power over their trade, that very increase will depend upon our regulations. Whilst they are happy under our government, their strength and their opulence will be strength and opulence to us; but if we oppress them they will be our weakness, and our danger. The numbers of a people are not so formidable as their union, their hatred, their fury. If there ever should come a time when they shall be able to shake off our sovereignty, it will pass unheeded by a grateful and happy people; but if our dominion be founded only in our strength, it will subsist no longer than their weakness. It is therefore evident that we shall hold America, by a better security, if we do not enslave it. But will it afford us as much present emolument? This surely is a consideration much inferiour to the other; it may have more weight with a short lived and a short sighted Administration, but can never have so much with a thinking nation. Yet let even this be considered; we know that this nation has paid considerable taxes without any compulsion, and we know that free nations can support greater burthens than nations equally opulent that are enslaved. No power, no management, has ever succeeded to tax the latter as highly as the first; and the efforts of despotism have produced only depopulation or rebellion. Thus it is by no means certain that even our present emoluments would be the less if we extort nothing from them against their own consent*. Besides, with how much less expense can we secure the allegiance of the willing than of the unwilling. Amongst the first a militia would be serviceable, amongst the latter it would be formidable to ourselves. Let us also consider with how much greater eagerness our manufactures will be purchased by a grateful than by an exasperated people. We are now at peace with the world; the most rigorous measures may succeed for the present, but such measures are not the most eligible in themselves, when conducive neither to present advantage nor future security. The greatest man of his age has told us that two millions of fellow subjects deprived of their liberty would be fit instruments to make slaves of the rest. Surely there is justice in his observation; those whom we reduce to slavery cannot wish well to our freedom. Let us also consider that, without assuming that despotick authority which is intolerable to human nature, we may yet retain a power amazingly extensive. A power over the commerce of a nation affects the merchant, the landholder, and the manufacturer. Though we cannot dive into their purses, to wrest from them what they have already acquired, we can prevent their future acquisitions: Nay we can do more; we can make what they possess already less valuable, by its stagnation. Though the power of granting belongs solely to themselves, they will yet have but little power to refuse. Let this content us, that the sea, the common benefit of mankind, may be denied them; that the labour of their hands, the strength and the ingenuity which nature has bestowed upon them, shall be converted to our purposes: But, for our own sakes, let us not discourage that industry which is to benefit ourselves. What we permit them to acquire let that be their own.

"Thus, on every present and every future consideration. I should think myself an enemy to Great Britain should I propose to give worse terms to a people unendeared by former connections, unacquainted with liberty, and destitute of any claim upon our justice, than those which are demanded for our fellow subjects; but it must not therefore be forgotten that they have long been our friends and brothers, and that another system cannot be established without a violation of national faith, a departure from our justice, and at one time perhaps the shedding of their blood. We should be well assured of the rectitude of our cause, we should advance to the utmost limits of negotiation, before we draw the sword against our brothers. We shall prevail with certainty indeed, but we may not prevail without a contest; and though the force of terrour only may give temporary establishment to our authority, the sword and the executioner only must maintain it. From men deprived of every thing that they hold most dear, and deprived of it by their friends, what may not be expected? Any thing should be expected, except their submission. What then are the ultimate objects of the most oppressive laws and most sanguinary counsels? Will they restore us to that brotherly affection which infused the same soul into every part of our empire, or procure us an uncertain quiet, a disaffected submission?

* *In the last war they incurred a debt of* 2,600,000 *l. Would they have done this for an oppressor?*